



Meeting Date: September 30, 2019

In Attendance: Maria Boyes, Kelly Kessler, Alison Dallenbach-Carey, Robert Wendel, Michael La Place, Greg Blasi, Tom Jardim (Town Attorney)

Absent: Carol Tener, Jennifer Jaruzelski, Linda Habgood, Katie Spikes, Joe Biren

The meeting minutes from June 24, 2019, were reviewed and approved by the Commission.

New Business:

Public Hearing on Proposed Historic Designation: 1737 Nevada Street

Robert Wendel gave the history of the home, which is owned by Frank & Carol Nolde, and was built in 1850. It is located off of Central Avenue, and is bounded by Nevada and Dakota Streets. The house is an excellent example of Colonial style architecture, and the property was part of the Ephraim Scudder and David Ross estates. The two estates covered much of the south side of Westfield, and this section of land was passed down through generations, and what remains was part of the two estates. John Frazee the first historian of Westfield, lived in the home with his son and wife. Frazee was instrumental in saving artifacts throughout Westfield. Many items at the Miller Cory house were passed down from John Frazee. The Nolde's have carefully restored and maintained the home, while preserving the 1850s feel and charm. All of the its original doors and windows, including the hardware and moldings have been retained, as well as its original plaster walls and ceilings. The layout of the first floor embraces a center hall colonial with two rooms on each side that are separated by pocket doors. Each of the home's fireplaces have been maintained with their original marble mantles and original coal grates. There are 12-foot ceilings on the first floor and 10-foot ceilings on the second floor. The kitchen has an original brick open hearth and beehive oven with the original cast iron door. In the side yard is the original hand dug well and cast-iron hand pump. This home is a fantastic representation of what life was like in 1850.

Carol Nolde stated the house was very well maintained by the Frazee family, and her husband did a great deal of work restoring the home.

The commission agreed the Nolde's care for the Frazee home represents what it means to occupy and preserve a historical home. Their willingness to designate their property will hopefully serve as an example and encourage other homeowners of historic properties to do the same.

Open to public comments.

Ken Anness (1742 Dakota Street) lives across the street from the Nolde's, and stated a home like this needs to be protected, it is good for the neighborhood and the town.

Closed to public comments.

A motion was made and seconded, being unanimously approved, the report and a resolution will move to the Planning Board for review.



Request by the Stillufsens (property owners) 664 4th Avenue to transfer the approved application from the Shobers (applicants) for their subdivision:

The application for a certificate of appropriateness was approved, subject to conditions, and the resolution was carried from the June meeting. It is being requested that the application be transferred from Tony & Jennifer Shober, to the Stillufsens, who are the property owners. The conditions of approval were either the home be moved 10 feet towards Brandt Court, or the roof of the patio be a flat roof. The Stillufsens will keep the approved design and add the flat roof. When asked if the Stillufsens would be building on the subdivided portion of the property themselves, they stated that would not be possible since it wouldn't put any money into escrow for the improvements to the original historic home. Tom Jardim stated the only action the commission has to take is to memorialize the approval, and once approved, the application will be transferred to the Stillufsens.

A motion was made to memorialize the resolution, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Plaque discussion for newly designated homes:

Robert Newell and Mary Anne Healy were part of the discussion.

Alison presented her research on the plaques for newly designated homes. It was agreed to keep the design as consistent as possible. Robert Newell recommended some possible wording for the plaques, such as, this property is listed in the local register of historic places by the Historic Preservation Commission, Town of Westfield, and the year the home was built should be included. The commission agreed an oval shape should be considered over a rectangular shape. Alison will get a price quote for an oval shaped plaque with the above language and circa date, and will ask about the cost to include the HPC logo on the plaque.

Design Guidelines:

Maria stated there is a lot of text on the historic neighborhoods so it is matter of pulling it all together to get to Gail Hutton who is updating the design guidelines. It was agreed to try and coordinate the historical photos based on properties Gail is looking at to highlight, rather than overwhelming her with thousands of photos. Greg recommended reviewing "A Pattern Book for Norfolk Neighborhoods", as a guide to head towards when updating the design guidelines.

The meeting was opened to public comment:

None.

Meeting adjourned: 8:48 pm



Westfield Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes recorded by Linda Jacus